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OLD TOM

OLD Tom rang the 'ting-tang' bell at his village church for years and was also organ blower. His career and the incidents connected with his 'blowing' is too long a story to be related here, but, in any case, Tom 'did not hold' with any 'new-fangled' ideas, and when the new electric blower was installed Tom lost his job.

Another climax came one day when Tom found eight new bells in the churchyard ready for hoisting into a tower which never even boasted a ting-tang, and we wondered what Tom would say about a nice new octave when they were installed. How would Tom approach his new duties as steeplekeeper and bell-ringer in the light of changed circumstances? He could manage the 'ting-tang' very well, but how about eight bells hung in a frame? Tom kept his thoughts to himself, saw us ring the bells on dedication day and watched them being chimed on Sunday afternoons, but when the first practice night came he unlocked the door and said he would be back for locking up.

Time went on and it reached the Vicar's ears that Tom was not taking lessons with the result that he was told in no uncertain words that duty must be done. He came to practice and duly ignored one or two quiet 'digs' about starting, but would not take part. After locking up he asked the instructor to give him some lessons 'on his own' with a 'slashed' bell, so it was arranged for a bell to be lashed on a given evening. The instructor pulled the bell up and took Tom above to show him the various points that should be borne in mind, but Tom, after seeing a bell mouth upward for the first time, announced that he was 'flabbergasted' and would have nothing to do with it. The instructor returned to the ringing chamber rather sadly, for he clearly saw that Tom would not become a ringer in the English style, but he still had hopes that he

might become a good chimer, yet here again his pupil failed and did not like the 'new-fangled thing' at all. The only course left was to make Tom a 'toller' and let him do his bit five minutes before service, a task which he managed fairly well providing the swing of the bell was not too high.

One evening the instructor heard a bell sounding forth from the tower prior to a special evening service and he concluded it was Tom managing by himself, so he hastened to see how he was progressing. Mounting the steps to the ringing chamber, he was surprised to find that Tom was missing yet the bell was sounding. Somewhat mystified, he ascended to the intermediate chamber, but Tom was not there, and after a further ascent to the top of the bell-frame he perceived Tom in the pit of one of the bells operating his own idea of bell-ringing. In his hand was a hammer and he counted from one to four, then brought the hammer smartly down on the sound-bow instead of calling five. Needless to say, Tom was immediately stopped and told quite candidly that ringing by rope is by far the best method, that the ringing chamber is the right place for ringing and his idea a dangerous undertaking.

So Tom went back to the rope and, much to his delight, became quite confident, even though his performance was always short. He was not the type that could be expected to learn ringing with a young band, but though he did not become a ringer he had good qualities such as thoroughness and punctuality, together with a sense of pride in all he did, so that ringers could enjoy ringing under clean conditions in the ringing chamber. He never touched a rope in any tower except his own, for he was thoroughly local, but he was proud of the ringers who rang at his tower and delighted in welcoming visitors. Many would smile at such a character and often 'pull his leg,' but Tom never became ruffled, for he could 'take it' all in good part, and before knowing him very long many ringers found him a loyal, lovable personality.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

NORWICH.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Easter Monday, Apr. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT.

A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb.

FRANK E. DARBY Treble	MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. 7
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	GEORGE W. PIPE 8
RICHARD E. PRICE 3	CECIL W. PIPE 9
DONALD G. CLIFT 4	FREDK. E. COLLINS .. 10
JOHN S. MASON 5	JOHN H. CRAMPION .. 11
BRIAN D. THRELFALL .. 6	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

TEN BELL PEAL

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Mar. 28, 1955, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

JOHN WORTH Treble	GERALD FARRER 6
GRAEME A. HUGHES .. 2	EDWARD JENKINS .. 7
FRED DUNKERLEY .. 3	HARRY FARRER 8
JUNE HENSHAW 4	HEDLEY WOOD 9
BASIL JONES 5	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

A wedding compliment to Alan Wainwright and Anne Worth, married at this church on March 26th.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Wed., Mar. 23, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP.

A PEAL OF 5056 ALDRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tipler's D 56/1.	Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in A.
EVELYN M. FLETCHER .. Treble	TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 5
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 2	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 6
PETER BORDER 3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 6
JOHN PINFOLD 4	MICHAEL G. MORTON .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST W. TIPLER.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

The first peal in the method.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Mon., Mar. 28, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes.

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5056 UMBERSLADE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tipler's B 27/3.	Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.
HENRY H. FEARN Treble	PETER BORDER 5
GEORGE E. FEARN 2	TERRY R. HAMPTON .. 6
JOHN PINFOLD 3	FRANK E. HAYNES .. 7
MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 4	CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER.

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.

The first peal in the method.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Wed., Mar. 30, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in F

ANTHONY BAILEY Treble	PETER J. MORTON 5
MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 2	PETER BORDER 6
MAUREEN M. FELLOWS .. 3	ANTHONY AGER 7
*PAUL J. RIGBY 4	GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal of Major 'inside.'

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Mar. 30, 1955, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in C.

ERNEST MORRIS Treble	JOHN A. ACRES 5
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 2	ERNEST J. JELLEY .. 6
WILLIAM THORNLEY .. 3	*BRIAN S. CHAPMAN .. 7
JOHN M. JELLEY 4	BRIAN G. WARWICK .. Tenor

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Conducted by BRIAN G. WARWICK.

* First peal in the method.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Apr. 1, 1955, in 3 Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

E. CHARLES TURNER .. Treble	ROLAND BENISTON .. 5
MRS. H. J. POOLE 2	JOHN A. UNDERWOOD .. 6
MRS. B. G. WARWICK .. 3	JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 7
MICHAEL E. BROWN .. 4	HAROLD J. POOLE .. Tenor

Composed by FRED DENAL.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN. & N. SOUTHWARK DIO. GUILD.

On Sat., Apr. 2, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5120 ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR

MRS. KATHLEEN F. PARR .. Treble	*SQUIRE CROFT 5
*MRS. OLIVE L. ROGERS .. 2	THOMAS E. DAVIES .. 6
WILFRID G. WILSON .. 3	ALAN F. THIRST .. 7
†ALAN P. CAVE 4	HAROLD W. ROGERS .. Tenor

Arranged by WILFRID G. WILSON. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.

* 50th peal together. † First peal of Surprise. First peal of Ashtead Surprise Major by all, and for the Association.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Apr. 2, 1955, in 3 Hours and 19 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 8 lb.

DAVID W. JAMES Treble	ERNEST E. WHITMORE .. 5
JOHN KING 2	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE .. 6
*LEONARD G. TOSELAND .. 3	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 7
BARRIE HENDRY 4	BRYAN PATTISON .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal on eight bells. Ernest E. Whitmore has now 'circled the tower.'

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Toseland on the occasion of their 21st wedding anniversary.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

DENNIS KNOX Treble	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 5
*JAMES G. NEWMAN .. 2	RONALD J. SHARP .. 6
†STEPHEN IVIN 3	†PHILIP MEHEW .. 7
JOHN W. SINFIELD .. 4	DEREK P. JONES .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by DENNIS KNOX.

* First peal of Yorkshire 'inside.' † First peal of Yorkshire.

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MARSHFIELD, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 3 Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

*PATRICIA H. JONES Treble	THOMAS YEOMAN 5
DONALD G. CLARKE 2	ROBERT E. COLES 6
JACQUELINE S. EVANS 3	†JOHN E. MORGAN 7
*CLIVE G. BRYANT 4	DAVID J. KING Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

Conducted by DAVID J. KING.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Major 'inside.'

Rung as a 19th birthday compliment to John E. Morgan.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

*MARY WALSHAW Treble	JOSEPH THORNLEY 5
BRIAN TOMLINSON 2	ALBERT GREENHALGH 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	PETER CROOK (SEN.) 7
NORMAN TOMPKINS 4	HENRY PRESCOTT Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK, SENR.

*50th peal.

A birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Chad.

A PEAL OF 5088 MACCLESFIELD SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in G.

*HENRY O. BAKER Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
FRED DUNKERLEY 2	JOHN WORTH 6
*JOHN E. BIBBY 3	PETER LAFLIN 7
BASIL JONES 4	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by A. G. DRIVER.

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

*First peal in the method.

First peal in the method on the bells and by the Association.

WESTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 3 Hours,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.

A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

*RUSSELL R. H. PARKER .. Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR 5
*E. WINIFRED KEYS 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 6
ALFRED T. GREENWOOD .. 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON 7
*NORMAN J. SMITH 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by FREDK. DENCH.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

*First peal in the method. 75th peal by the ringer of the second.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

At the Church of The Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. Treble	JAMES W. GROUNDS 5
*MILDRED JONES 2	ALBERT GREENHALGH 6
MARY WALSHAW 3	PETER CROOK 7
BRIAN A. TOMLINSON .. 4	JOHN ASHCROFT Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

*First peal.

Rung to celebrate Mr. Peter Crook's 50 years of ringing.

BRANCEPETH, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Brandon,

A PEAL OF 5152 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's. Tenor 15 cwt.

STANLEY HEWETT Treble	KENNETH ARTHUR 5
*CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 2	‡PHILIP G. DRAFFAN 6
†STEPHEN THOMPSON .. 3	*ERIC N. HARRISON 7
DENIS A. BAYLES 4	J. ALAN AINSWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by J. ALAN AINSWORTH.

*25th peal together. †First peal in the method. ‡First peal of 'Surprise.

First peal of Surprise as conductor.

CARDIFF.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 27 cwt.

WILLIAM T. PETTY Treble	A. RYAN PRICE 5
HAROLD CASSEL 2	*TREVOR LEWIS 6
DILLYS HULBERT 3	THOMAS YEOMANS 7
ALBERT J. PITMAN 4	WILLIAM DARE Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER.

Conducted by WILLIAM DARE.

*First peal of Major. First peal of Major on the bells since 1912.

DERBY.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF 5120 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

JOAN E. HOODLESS Treble	CLEMENT GLENN 5
BENJAMIN BARKER 2	*J. DAVID CLARKE 6
ALLAN SIMPSON 3	WALTER STEEN 7
CHARLES W. TOWERS .. 4	ALFRED MOULD Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

*First peal of Major.

HAZELBECH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Guilsborough Branch.)

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 12 lb.

*C. WILLIAM BROWN .. Treble	*DEREK E. GRIFFIN 5
*DAWN V. ELSON 2	*ROBIN WILSON 6
MICHAEL F. AMOS 3	*JOHN KINCHIN 7
DONALD S. PAYNE 4	ERNEST G. ORLAND Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by ERNEST G. ORLAND.

*First peal of Major. First peal on eight bells by a branch band.

SHERBORNE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 4 Hours and 14 Minutes,

At the Abbey Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 46 cwt. 5 lb. in B flat.

CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Treble	HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS .. 5
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 2	WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. 6
G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. 3	FRANK L. HARRIS 7
*MICHAEL J. BEST 4	RONALD N. MARLOW Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT.

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

*First peal of Surprise Major. The first peal of London on the bells.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

E. ROGER MARTIN .. Treble	WILLIAM LANCASTER 5
G. ALEC DIMMOCK 2	JAMES BLACKBURN 6
THOMAS BARKER 3	CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE .. 7
LAWRENCE WALMSLEY .. 4	ARTHUR HATCH Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

Arranged for W. Lancaster of Derby, who was formerly chief ringer at this tower.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Apr. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicolas.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

*ROGER PAYNE Treble	CHARLES TAYLOR 5
*ANN VINTER 2	†ALICE M. REED 6
NORMAN HAYES 3	REGINALD A. REED 7
†CEDRIC MURPHY 4	*L. WILLIAM STEAD Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. The conductor's 150th peal.

Rung to the Glory of God and with the bells half muffled as a tribute to the work in the parish of Mrs. Goodier, wife of the Rector's warden, who died on April 11th.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

WHITTLESFORD, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Fri., Mar. 25, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

*JILL I. MARTIN Treble	*DAVID P. STUBBING .. 4
JANE THORPE 2	EUSTACE W. BULLMAN .. 5
T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 3	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Tenor

Conducted by W. J. RIDGMAN.

* First peal of Treble Bob.

PACKWOOD, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Sat., Mar. 26, 1955, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Seven extents.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

*ROBERT E. TALLIS Treble	MICHAEL G. MORTON .. 4
MURIEL REAY 2	GEORGE E. FEARN .. 5
BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY .. 3	PETER BORDER Tenor

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal with Treble Bob Hunt.

PACKWOOD, WARWICKSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Thurs., Mar. 31, 1955, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Seven different extents.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

RICHARD G. MORRIS .. Treble	*ERIC E. WIMLETT .. 4
MURIEL REAY 2	PETER BORDER 5
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	MICHAEL G. MORTON .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER BORDER.

* First peal of Minor.

MELBOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Mar. 30, 1955, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Ely Delight and six of Cambridge Surprise.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

*WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN .. Treble	IVOR J. DICKIN 4
GILLIAN A. SMITH 2	JOHN G. GIPSON 5
*T. REGINALD DENNIS .. 3	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON .. Tenor

Conducted by W. J. RIDGMAN.

* 50th peal together.

Rung as congratulations to Marion Grain and the Rev. Hugh Joseph on announcing their engagement.

SHOBROOKE, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Thurs., Mar. 31, 1955, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Single Court, Oxford Bob, Double Bob and one of College Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

H. W. BUTT Treble	HAROLD P. BURTON .. 4
FREDERICK WREFFORD .. 2	JOHN L. S. GLANVILL .. 5
SIDNEY SKINNER 3	JOHN QUICK Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

NORTH WINGFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Chesterfield District.)

On Tues., Apr. 5, 1955, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, four of Oxford T.B., one of Plain Bob.

Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER DAVIS Treble	WILFRED RILEY 4
SAM SCATTERGOOD 2	GEORGE E. HANCOCK .. 5
DOREEN ARMSTRONG 3	FRANK BRADLEY Tenor

Conducted by DOREEN ARMSTRONG.

The conductor's 30th peal.

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Good Friday, Apr. 8, 1955, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Single Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Plain Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*JOHN WARDLE Treble	G. FRED TERRY 4
D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 2	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 5
*JOHN J. TAYLOR 3	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

* First peal in seven methods. Rung with the bells half muffled.

DALLINGTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and three extents of Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE Treble	KEVIN S. HOHL 4
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 2	JOHN W. MEADE 5
STANLEY G. PONTING .. 3	*COLIN A. TESTER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. MEADE.

* First peal in three methods.

The treble ringer has now 'circled the tower.' First peal as conductor.

HAWKSHEAD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

ROBIN SHUTTLEWORTH .. Treble	JOHN BACKALL 4
JAMES E. BURLS 2	FRANK BIRKETT 5
ALAN CAPSTICK 3	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY .. Tenor

Conducted by NICHOLAS M. NEWBY.

Rung as a farewell to the Bishop of Penrith, Right Rev. H. V. Turner, at the close of his ministry as Vicar of Hawkshead Parish Church.

CARLTON-JUXTA-SNAITH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of St. Clement's Bob, and two different extents each of Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 6 cwt.

SUSAN HARROP Treble	EDWARD M. BRADLEY .. 4
D. MARGARET HAWLEY .. 2	ALAN SHEPPARD 5
G. FRED TERRY 3	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.

EAST HARLING, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*LEONARD W. KING Treble	FRANK C. J. ARNOLD .. 4
DAVID VOKES 2	WILFRED G. SAUNDERS .. 5
*DR. PAUL H. A. JONASON .. 3	CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO .. Tenor

Conducted by CEDRIC F. W. PHILLIPPO.

* First peal in more than one method.

Rung for the festival of Easter.

MOUNTSOREL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

Tenor 8 cwt. in G sharp.

*JACK HANFORD Treble	*GEOFFREY J. LOWE .. 4
†B. STEDMAN PAYNE 2	*GEOFFREY M. BREWIN .. 5
†ROYSTON WILMORE 3	F. KEVIN THOMPSON .. Tenor

Conducted by F. KEVIN THOMPSON.

* First peal. † 25th peal together. Conductor's 50th peal and first of Minor as conductor.

Rung as a wedding anniversary compliment to Major and Mrs. C. F. Thompson.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being extents in seven methods: Hereward Bob, Single Court, Single Oxford, Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE W. WATERMAN .. Treble	SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT .. 4
ROSEMARY SEABROOK .. 2	RONALD W. STEWARD .. 5
ROBERT E. LESTER .. 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY .. Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

STOKE-NEXT-GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Apr. 11, 1955, in 2 Hours and 32 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being two extents each of New Bob, Reverse New Bob, Stedman, Place Bob, Fortune, Kennington, Northrepps Pleasure, Clifford Pleasure, Southrepps Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Winchendon Place, St. Nicholas', St. Martin's, St. Simon's, Eynsham, Old. All Saints', Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. in A.

ROY COLLINS Treble	SHELAGH R. COLLINS .. 4
ROLAND W. MORANT .. 2	ANN M. COX .. 5
E. JOHN WELLS .. 3	*JAMES F. DODSON .. Tenor

Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

*First peal of Doubles. First peal in 21 doubles methods by all the band, on the bells, and for the Guild.

Rung for Easter.

ROADE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Apr. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of two extents each of Stedman and four extents each of Norfolk, April Day, Kennington, Old Bob, Plain Bob, All Saints', Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Southrepps Pleasure, Cliffords Pleasure and St. Columb.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in F.

HARRY E. CURTIS Treble	ANTHONY J. BAKER .. 3
ANTHONY G. OSBORNE .. 2	GEORGE F. ROOME .. 4

ALAN C. COZENS .. Tenor

Conducted by ALAN C. COZENS.

First peal in eleven methods for all the band.

Rung for the festival of Easter.

SHELFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Apr. 12, 1955, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 240 by Pitman and 40 extents (10 callings).

Tenor 12 cwt.

MARK W. LEWIS Treble	SIMON J. BARLEY .. 3
F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 2	FREDERICK G. HOOPER .. 4

*WILLIAM L. EXTON .. Tenor

Conducted by SIMON L. BARLEY.

* 25th peal.

Rung for the festival of Easter.

HANDBELL PEALS

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Apr. 9, 1955, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents.

JOHN S. HARRISON 1-2	MAURICE BAILEY 3-4
----------------------------	--------------------------

DAVID J. MARSHALL .. 5-6

Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL.

BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Wed., Apr. 13, 1955, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT 'STEDMAN,' SKETCHLEY ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in C.

JOHN A. SMITH 1-2	ALFRED BALLARD 3-4
C. ROGER HAYWARD .. 5-6	*MICHAEL VERNON 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS.

Conducted by ALFRED BALLARD.

* First peal of Plain Bob.

First peal of Major 'in hand' by all except the conductor.



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BELL FOUNDERS AND CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



QUARTER PEALS

ALFORD, Lincs.—On Mar. 5th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: H. Pike 1, J. I. Smith 2, Mrs. K. Ketteringham 3, S. H. Sutton 4, K. Ketteringham 5, J. R. Ketteringham (cond.) 6. A wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. K. Ketteringham.

BEDFORD.—At the Church of St. Paul, on Mar. 27th, 1,280 Plain Bob Minor: D. Thompson 1, S. Foskett 2, R. A. Lennard 3, P. J. Shipton 4, G. Amor 5, B. Pattison (cond.) 6. Rung on the front six before the Bedford Modern School end-of-term service. Also for Evensong on the same day, 1,344 Oxford Bob Triples: Miss V. M. Look 1, P. J. Shipton 2, R. A. Lennard 3, G. Amor 4, J. R. Taylor 5, S. Foskett 6, C. E. Jeffries (arranged and conducted) 7, D. Thompson 8. First quarter peal in the method by all the band (the St. Paul's Company), in the county and for the Bedfordshire Association.

BEDWELLY, MON.—On April 1st, 1,560 Plain Bob Doubles: T. T. Lewis 1, Mrs. A. R. Price 2, Jean Powell 3, A. R. Price 4, A. K. G. Jones (first as cond.) 5, G. Williams 6. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. M. Williams, of Porthkerry, Glam. Also on April 10th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Margaret Boyt (first quarter) 1, Mrs. A. R. Price 2, Jean Powell 3, B. Thomas 4, A. R. Price (cond.) 5, G. Williams 6. Rung for evening service.

BLEWURY, BERKS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Dunsden 1, J. Blond 2, A. Greenough 3, H. Wells 4, F. James 5, C. Corderoy 6, R. Blond (cond.) 7, C. Corderoy 8.

BRAMPTON ASH, NORTANTS.—On Palm Sunday, 1,440 Minor (720 St. Clement's and 720 Double Oxford Bob): R. J. Coles (first of Minor) 1, L. G. Toseland 2, B. Hendry 3, P. I. Chapman 4, B. S. Cope 5, B. Pattison (cond.) 6. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. H. R. J. Norton on being instituted Rural Dean of Weldon I.

BRANSTON, Lincs.—On April 11th, 1,260 Double Oxford Bob Minor: C. Speed 1, J. Pearson 2, A. Ingall 3, R. Applewhite 4, L. Willders 5, J. Musson (cond.) 6. Rung for the 65th birthday of the ringier of the 3rd; also for the return from hospital of the Rector's wife (Mrs. W. R. Dewey).

BOROUGH, S.E.—On Palm Sunday, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. A. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender (cond.) 2, C. W. Outley 3, F. Ranson 4, J. Hales 5, F. P. Mead 6, W. D. Grainger 7, C. F. Victor Neil 8. Rung for Evensong.

BURES, SUFFOLK.—On April 10th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: L. D. Mills 1, R. H. Davies 2, S. T. Hume 3, D. L. Mills 4, J. M. Spurgin 5, Mrs. L. Mills 6, A. W. Cansdale (cond.) 7, E. C. Hynard 8. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

CHELSEFIELD, KENT.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Bridget Cox 1, Ann Carpenter 2, J. Pannell 3, V. Webster 4, J. Parker (cond.) 5, J. Carpenter 6. Rung for Evensong, and for the christening of John Gordon Moore, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Moore.

CRANFORD, NORTANTS.—On April 8th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Miss M. Crosier (aged 12, first quarter) 1, R. Stretton 2, L. G. Berridge (cond., aged 12, first quarter) 3, C. Everett 4, D. W. James (first quarter) 5. Rung half-muffled on Good Friday to the Glory of God.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Oxford Treble Bob: Mrs. K. Snelling 1, G. Apps 2, H. C. Lilley 3, K. Snelling 4, J. W. Jeffery 5, J. H. Lilley 6, F. Godsmark (cond.) 7, E. J. Brett 8. Rung for Easter service, and also as a birthday compliment to E. J. Brett.

EASTON MAUDIT, NORTANTS.—On Mar. 31st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, all different callings: D. Edmunds 1, E. Geeves (first quarter) 2, R. Daniels 3, R. Line 4, E. Smart (cond.) 5.

EPSOM, SURREY.—At Christ Church, on Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Jean E. Howells 1, Ann Howells 2, F. Oakshott (cond.) 3, D. J. Oakshott 4, W. G. Newberry 5, D. Astridge 6, Cherie Payne 7, D. J. Evans 8.

FENHAM, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Christine R. Dainty (first quarter) 1, E. N. Harrison (cond.) 2, P. Wishart 3, K. Arthur 4, T. Sewell 5, J. Hedley 6, J. A. Alnsworth 7, G. P. Cairns 8.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.—On April 10th, 1,260 Northrepps Doubles: Ann Tanner 1, Laura M. Becey (first in method inside) 2, Kathleen Yeo 3, B. Stepany (first in method) 4, G. Becey (first in method as cond.) 5, F. Becey 6. Rung for Evensong.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLEX.—On Palm Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. G. Pitcher 1, 3, J. M. G. Anthony 2, R. E. Waters 3, J. Schofield 4, C. E. Slade (cond.) 5, J. C. Pitcher 6. Also on Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. G. Pitcher 1, J. M. G. Anthony 2, J. Schofield (cond.) 3, R. E. Waters 4, C. E. Slade 5, J. C. Pitcher 6.

IFFLEY, OXON.—On April 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Adams (cond.) 1, Miss C. Hall 2, Miss V. Naylor (first quarter) 3, C. Bennet 4, H. Mair 5, D. Woodley 6. Rung for Evensong.

LELANT, CORNWALL.—On April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Richards 1, Ann Clifton (first 'inside') 2, H. Miles (cond.) 3, Marion L. Lidgely 4, P. A. Clifton 5, L. B. P. Whatty (first quarter) 6. Rung for Evensong.

LOCKING, SOMERSET.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Marjorie Legg (cond.) 1, Rosemary Hutchings 2, Denis Cox 3, June Legg 4, S. White 5, F. Millier 6.

LLANSTEPHAN, CARMS.—On Mar. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. Hullock 1, G. W. Morris 2, T. Owen 3, W. L. Williams 4, E. J. Morris (cond.) 5, W. Taylor (first quarter) 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam G. Morris, ringier and captain for many years at this church.

NORTH MYMMS, HERTS.—On April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. D. Bartlett 1, T. J. Lock (cond.) 2, Mrs. T. J. Lock 3, Mary F. Lawrence 4, J. R. Loft 5, P. L. Baycock 6, P. J. Coles 7, A. J. Skull 8. For Evensong.

NORTON, HERTS.—On Maunday Thursday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Sanderson 1, H. Werrett 2, Miss I. Werrett 3, Miss P. Hutton 4, J. Dear 5, W. Hitch (cond.) 6, E. Buck 7, Miss J. Merrell 8. Rung half-muffled, and at the special request of the Vicar.

NORTON SUBCOURSE, NORFOLK.—On April 10th, 1,440 Treble Bob Minor (720 Kent, 720 Oxford): A. Walpole 1, W. Warner 2, J. Forder 3, G. G. Walpole 4, E. Long 5, D. Long (cond.) 6. Rung for evening service.

PRESTON, LANCs.—At the Parish Church of St. John, on April 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Gorton (first quarter) 1, E. Cowperthwaite 2, E. R. Martin 3, R. J. Nash 4, G. A. Dimmock (cond.) 5, J. Blackburn 6, W. K. Martin 7, C. Crosswaite 8. Rung in honour of the visit of H.M. the Queen and H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

POWICK, WORCS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. Trumper 1, H. Cole 2, D. Trumper (first quarter as cond.) 3, G. J. Lewis 4, D. Bricknell (first quarter) 5, F. Hyde 6.

RADSTOCK, SOMERSET.—On April 10th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of Stedman, St. Simon's and April Day, 360 Plain Bob and 180 Grandsire): A. Jones 1, R. Thatcher 2, D. Hoare (cond.) 3, E. Brown 4, F. Carter 5, D. Yelling 6. Rung for Holy Communion service.

RAVENINGHAM, NORFOLK.—On April 10th, 1,440 Doubles (240 each of St. Martin, Winchendon, St. Nicholas, St. Simon, Grandsire and Plain Bob): W. Warner 1, G. G. Walpole 2, J. W. Forder 3, E. Long (cond.) 4, D. Long 5.

REDBOURN, HERTS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Taylor 1, W. Ranscombe 2, G. Reading 3, R. Woods 4, J. Hobbs (cond.) 5, H. Walker 6. First quarter for 3 and 4. Rung for Easter, and as a farewell to the ringier of the 3rd on joining H.M. Forces.

REIGATE, SURREY.—On April 12th, 1,264 Bob Major: Miss B. Sagers 1, F. B. Jeal 2, C. S. Hoad 3, G. F. Hoad (cond.) 4, F. T. Hoad 5, W. H. Inwood (first 'inside') 6, G. Oliver 7, A. T. Shelton 8.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At the Cathedral, on April 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. Penney (aged 15, first quarter) 1, Mrs. J. Dodds 2, G. Dodds 3, B. A. Cornell 4, G. Blake 5, W. J. Arnold 6, R. F. Ewer (cond.) 7, J. Ewer 8.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On Easter Day, 1,272 Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob: J. E. Wightman 1, W. J. Paice 2, Miss S. Revell 3, W. Collins 4, L. W. Paice 5, W. J. Parker (cond.) 6. Rung for Evensong.

SAPCOTE, LEICS.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Minor (720 Kent Treble Bob and 540 Plain Bob): Rosemary Stratford 1, Jennifer Stratford 2, Rita Stratford 3, Christine Stratford 4, M. E. Brown (cond.) 5, A. Chapman 6. Rung for evening service.

SAWLEY, DERBYS.—On Easter Sunday, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: O. Cripps 1, Shelagh Kilbourn 2, Wm. Simpson 3, P. Parry 4, D. Marshall (cond.) 5, H. Makins 6, C. Geary 7, R. Newsum 8.

SHIPLAKE, OXON.—On April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Cobb 1, E. H. Smith 2, Miss L. Roberts 3, E. Baughan 4, R. Russ 5, F. G. Henbes 6, A. K. Street (cond.) 7, J. Smith 8. First of Triples for 1 and 5.

SOMERTON, SOMERSET.—On Easter Day, 1,260 Doubles (240 each of Reverse St. Bartholomew, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob and 540 Grandsire): C. Gratton 1, D. Sweet 2, F. J. White 3, Mrs. L. Crocker (first in 4 methods) 4, E. T. P. Field (cond.) 5, A. Bown 6. Rung prior to Holy Communion.

SYSTON, LEICS.—On April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. A. D. Sayer 1, Miss J. Kirkman 2, Miss M. C. Payne 3, A. D. Sayer 4, H. Matthewman 5, H. Humphreys 6, E. F. Payne (cond.) 7, C. Sanders 8. Rung for Easter Evensong.

TALGARH, BRECON.—On April 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Chick (first quarter) 1, W. G. Smith 2, G. P. Davies 3, S. V. Edwards 4, D. H. Bennett (cond.) 5, J. Parry 6. Rung half-muffled in memoriam J. A. Smith, captain of this tower, who was interred on April 1st.

TRURO, CORNWALL.—At the Cathedral, on April 12th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: H. Miles 1, T. G. Myers (cond.) 2, H. Eplett 3, J. Waters 4, D. Burnett 5, C. Jose 6, J. Phillips 7, C. Sangwin 8. R. Southwood 9, J. E. Chilcott 10. Rung for the Easter festival.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, SOMERSET.—On Mar. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. R. Young 1, R. O. Fry (cond.) 2, Miss E. Grimes 3, Miss A. Stephens 4, J. R. Hobbs 5, A. F. Lee 6, C. J. A. Brown 7, T. J. Milsom 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam A. E. Baverstock.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLEX.—At All Hallow's Church, on Mar. 26th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Gillian Neal Smith (14), 1, Dr. F. Stedman Poole 2, Dr. D. J. Neal Smith 3, D. Hill Brown 4, R. G. Lay 5, Dr. D. Gullick (cond.) 6. Rung on the occasion of a preliminary meeting held to discuss the formation of a Medical Change Ringing Society (three doctors taking part). The first quarter of Minor on the bells since their removal to Twickenham.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on April 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss N. Hales 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkings 3, Miss M. A. Prockson 4, W. F. Jarvis 5, W. D. Prockson 6, D. Neal (cond.) 7, C. F. Neal 8. A welcome to Joyce, ringier of the 3rd, on her return to ringing.

WALMER, KENT.—On April 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss F. Woodcock 1, Mrs. F. W. Lawrence 2, Miss A. Vinc 3, A. C. Rye 4, F. A. Rye 5, P. J. Rye 6, F. W. Lawrence (cond.) 7, D. Ladd 8. Rung for Easter; also to mark the 75th anniversary of the Kent County Association.

WANDSWORTH, SURREY.—On Palm Sunday, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 1,260 Stedman Triples: James Phillips 1, J. Stephenson 2, H. Ellis 3, R. F. Deal 4, B. K. Lunn 5, W. Rawlings 6, John Phillips (cond.) 7, H. M. Page 8.

WESTON, SOMERSET.—On Mar. 20th, 1,344 Little Bob Major: Miss E. Emm 1, Miss S. Drake 2, H. L. Parfery 3, I. Harris 4, R. O. Fry (cond.) 5, R. J. Cousins 6, T. J. Hayward 7, S. S. Woodburn 8. First quarter in the method by all the band except the conductor.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.—On Easter Sunday, 1,320 Surprise Minor (720 Norwich and 600 Cambridge): A. S. D. Graham (first of Treble Bob) 1, Barbara Mitchell 2, A. S. Richards 3, Mary Fuller 4, R. Bird 5, J. E. Cannell (cond.) 6.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.—On April 10th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. Denison 1, N. Robinson 2, K. Bonas 3, D. Mortlock 4, G. A. Lucas 5, M. Ginn (cond.) 6. Also 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Denison 1, F. Elsom 2, K. Bonas 3, D. Peacock 4, M. Ginn 5, G. A. Lucas (cond.) 6.

SOMERSET CAPTAIN'S WEDDING

The captain of Wellington (Somerset) Parish Church ringers, Mr. D. T. North, was married at Ashbrittle Church on Easter Monday to Miss E. A. Garde, of Ashbrittle, a member of the local band of ringers.

The Vicar (Preb. J. H. D. Grinter) officiated, assisted by the Rector of Ashbrittle (the Rev. M. P. Ralph Bowman).

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr. R. Garde, was attended by five bridesmaids. The brother of the bridegroom, Mr. A. North, was best man.

After the service the following band rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles in honour of the event: Miss M. Alderman 1, S. N. Bristow 2, H. Bristow 3, Miss P. Norman 4, Miss F. Norman 5, J. Smith 6.

Later in the evening the ringers of Wellington Parish Church added their compliment by ringing a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, the band being: G. Salter 1, W. Slocombe 2, Mrs. P. Moore 3, G. Walford (conductor) 4, N. Alderman 5, S. N. Bristow 6, D. Lentall 7, P. Rowland 8.

Another local Parish Church ringer, Mr. J. Hughes, was married to Miss V. Kerslake at All Saints', Rockwell Green, the same day, and the Parish Church ringers also associated this quarter as a compliment to them.

With the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Maulden on April 9th Mr. Dennis Knox and Mr. Derek P. Jones have 'completed the circle' of this tower.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The monthly meeting of the Society was held at Conisbrough on April 2nd. About 30 ringers representing ten towers and including the local company attended. A variety of methods including Double Norwich, Plain Bob, Cambridge and Stedman were rung, with rounds for the less advanced.

Tea was provided in the Church Hall, at very moderate cost, by the local company. The Association fixture cards, for the next two years, were distributed, and it was announced that the next meeting will be held at Bolsover on May 7th.

D. J. S.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations towards the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—R. R. and E. B. (Shiplake) 2s. 6d.

Peals.—Carlton-juxta-Snaith 3s., North Stoneham 4s., Cardiff 4s., Sherborne 2s. 6d., Hemingbrough 3s.

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IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.—On April 10th, 1,260 Minor (720 Oxford, 540 Plain Bob): W. Shorter 1, R. Hollocks 2, F. Hunt 3, R. Chambers 4, L. Sharpe 5, K. G. Brown (cond.) 6. Also 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: L. Sharpe 1, L. Pierce 2, H. King 3, K. S. Brown (cond.) 4, E. Bishop 5.

MORE BELFRY GOSSIP

E. G. C. writes questioning a paragraph that appeared in the 'Church of England Newspaper' that the ten bells hanging in the belfry of the disused Christ Church, Weymouth, have been removed and are to be placed in the tower of St. Andrew's, Lincoln. He asks has there ever been a ring of bells at Weymouth.

In conjunction with the quarterly meeting of the Surrey Association (Southern District) at Redhill to-morrow, a short talk, followed by questions, is to be given by the Ringing Master (Mr. A. Pat Cannon) on 'How to learn methods.' This is to help those who can already handle a bell and ring rounds but are finding difficulty in tackling change ringing. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance.

A good example of Easter Day ringing comes from Branston, Lincs. A 720 Cambridge Surprise was rung for early Communion, 720 Norwich Surprise for Matins and 720 Single Oxford for Evensong. The band afterwards rounded off the day by ringing a quarter peal in the following methods:—London Scholar's Pleasure, College Exercise, Cambridge and Bourne Surprise.

The time taken in the peal of Doubles at Renhold, Beds (see page 213) should read 2 hrs. 39 mins. 40 secs. and not 2 hrs. 45 mins. Despite the fact that the bells have not been 'pealed' for 35 years they are fairly ringable, but very 'lumpy.' The tuning and scale of the notes of the bells has to be heard to be believed, writes our correspondent. They are the original bells, being hung in a frame with a carved-in date of 1657. The peal was rung by present members of the Bedford and Bedford Modern Schools (average age 16½ years).

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Local ringers think there was a jinx on the bells of St. John-the-Baptist's, Cardiff, as far as peals of Major are concerned. It is 1912 since the last peal of Major was rung despite numerous attempts. In the successful performance on Easter Monday all the ringers had their hearts in their mouths as the tenor rope began to unstrand just below the sally. Tersely they rang on with strands of hemp floating in the air until finally the rope snapped—one complete whole pull just after 'That is all.' The jinx was beaten, but only just.

Representatives of five five-bell towers took part in a peal of Plain Bob Major at Hazelbech, Northants, on Easter Monday.

Congratulations to Mr. Peter Crook, the well-known Bolton ringer, on completing 50 years as a ringer. He took part in the congratulatory peal on Easter Monday at Holy Trinity, Bolton.

The peal at Hemingbrough, Yorks, on Good Friday was rung at the express wish of the Vicar (the Rev. A. M. Amcotts). The bells were rung half-muffled.

Who is the oldest tower-keeper in the country? Bathford, Somerset, have Mr. F. W. Cannings, who has just celebrated his 90th birthday. A congratulatory quarter was rung on March 27th.

Alderman Paddon Smith had a special interest in the dedication of the recast eight at Handsworth on April 2nd, as it was on February 6th, 1897, that he rang his first peal on the treble at this church—Grandsire Triples. It was Holt's Original, called by Samuel Reeves. The band consisted of A. Paddon Smith 1, Thomas Verry 2, Samuel Reeves 3, Thomas Horton 4, William H. Godden 5, Reuben Hall 6, William Verry 7, Sidney P. Smith tenor. The new bell is the alderman's gift.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The peal at North Stoneham, recorded this week, is believed to be the first by a local band for well over 25 years, and certainly since the death of Mr. George Williams. The band have been trained by Mr. Reginald Reed, who has worked hard to re-form the band since the last war. It was the 249th peal on the bells, the conductor's 150th and his 49th in the tower.

Mr. J. Nelhams who has been captain of SS. Peter and Paul's, Harlington, for 12 years has resigned on account of leaving the village. His successor is Mr. L. Grice. These bells were rung for four services on Easter Day.

An amazing coincidence has occurred to two members of the Wiversfield, Sussex, band. On March 20th a quarter peal was rung for the birth of a son to Mrs. Hancock, and on March 27th a quarter to the birth of a daughter to Mrs. Freda Hammond. Both mothers are members of the local band.

Some very valuable work was done at St. Peter's Church, Ash, on April 3rd, when the Farnham District held a combined practice for Surprise methods. All who attended enjoyed themselves and hopes were expressed that another practice of a similar character will be held in the near future.

In reply to Mr. George Gilbert's note re Miss Valerie Crouch's handbell peal, Mr. D. T. Matkin writes: 'My apologies to George Gilbert about the footnote to handbell peal in which Valerie Crouch rang 5-6. I was, however, informed by the lady concerned that it was her first attempt and even now she says she cannot remember ringing the peal at Hitcham. She does, however, not doubt she did ring one.'

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED



1570

MEARS & STAINBANK,
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PEAL RINGING IN MIDDLESEX

MIDDLESEX suffered more than any other county in the destruction of bells during the last war. Twelve rings were lost—nearly one-third of the total over the whole country. These included three 12's (St. Bride's, Fleet Street, St. Giles', Cripplegate, and Bow); one 10 (St. Clement Danes'); seven 8's and one 6. Of course, this is largely explained by the fact that the City of London is in this county and actually 10 of the above 12 towers are in the City. Thus ringing in Middlesex will mean talking about some of the towers in London whose names are household words from the old nursery rhyme, apart from many of them being the places where so many of the earliest peals ever rung were recorded. In several, we shall find that peals have not been rung for a long time, although they were popular in the past and, of course, with the movement of population away from the centre of the City, it means that fewer peals are rung these days in its many towers than 50 years ago, although there are one or two exceptions. Another point to remember here (and more so than in any other county, I expect) is that peal totals do not nearly represent all the peals rung at a particular tower since nearly all have been heard of for more than 200 years now. But now for some facts.

Willesden (8) is easily the tower with the most peals in the county—312 is its total. This would appear to be its real total, too, for it was a 6-bell tower at the beginning of the period under review, and the first peal recorded on August 1st, 1892, is claimed as the first on the bells. Only 12 had been rung by 1914, but after the war (the bells had then been augmented) no less than 172 came before 1940, and the rate has been even higher since the second war ended, for there have been 128 in the last ten years. Actually, only ten other towers in the country have passed the 300 mark in the past 75 years, so it can be seen how high in the list is Willesden.

ST. BOTOLPH'S

The second tower is far behind this total. It is St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate (8) with 202. The heyday here was between the wars when 178 peals were rung, including 40 in 1934 (after which there was a rather sudden drop to four or five a year). Peals were rung here before 1881, but 21 came from then to 1914. Only nine were rung from 1918 to 1925, but then came the sudden onslaught which produced 149 in the next ten years! Since the war there have only been three peals.

The third tower on the list has been one of the 'steadiest' in the county. It is Edmonton (8)—99 peals came in the 30-odd years from 1882 to 1914; there were 43 between the wars and there have been 51 since, making a total of 193. On the other hand, the next tower, Southgate (10), has only been heard twice in the last 25 years. Before the 1914 war it was one of the most popular 8-bell towers in the county and 169 peals were rung out of its total of 189 from 1881 to 1913. Two more were rung just after the war before augmentation, but there have only been 18 since then—16 from 1920 to 1930 and odd ones in 1939 and 1950.

Isleworth (10—175 peals) was also an 8-bell tower at the beginning of the period and the first peal recorded there was in 1889 (but there were previous ones to this). It has been very consistent since then, for 65 peals came from 1889 to 1914, and 28 from 1917 to 1928. When the bells were augmented, 36 peals were rung from 1931 to 1939, and there have been 46 since 1945. Fulham (10—171 peals) had its best time early on, for no less than 145 of its total

were rung between 1882 and 1913; 18 more came from 1919 to 1933, after which there was silence until 1945 with eight peals since then.

Another of the many 10-bell towers, now unhappily destroyed, comes next—St. Clement Danes'. Its 162 peals were rung consistently from 1881 to 1939 with the usual gap for the war at an average of about three a year. Only in 1891, 1933 and 1938 did it fail to register a peal, and not many towers can say that with a total as small as this (compared with some, that is). Three other towers have passed the 100 mark—Westminster, St. Margaret's (10), Stepney (10) and St. Giles-in-the-Fields (8). One hundred and thirty-seven peals have come from the first, mostly in the early part of the period (113 to 1913—nine since 1945); 125 from the second (74 before 1914 and seven since 1944), and 114 from St. Giles' (a similar history again—64 pre-1914 and 12 post second war).

ONE OFF THE CENTURY

Hillingdon, St. Andrew's (8) will also reach the century with its next peal. Fifty-seven were rung from 1885 to 1914, 35 between the wars (31 from 1929 to 1939) and seven from 1945 to 1950. There are three others in the 90's. They are St. Magnus Martyr (10)—43 from 1895 to 1906 and 54 from 1921 to 1940; none since the war, total 97; Acton (8)—total 96 (45 pre-1914 war, 24 since 1944, but none last year); and Bethnal Green (8)—total 94 (58 from 1881 to 1898, 26 from 1903 to 1914 and ten from 1920 to 1939, with again none since the last war).

THE TWELVE-BELL TOWERS

None of the seven 12-bell towers has yet been mentioned for their totals are not very high. All the remaining ones have been heard since the war especially St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, where 14 of its total of 44 have come since 1945—the average is less than one a year over the remainder of the period. Shoreditch has the most with 68 peals, 50 of them between the wars and two (in 1953) since. Cornhill's 63 is spread fairly evenly over the years, but there have been only three since the war, in the years 1950 to 1954. Bow had just reached the 50 mark in the time when it was destroyed—39 of these came between 1919 and 1939.

St. Giles', Cripplegate, had 30 peals from 1886 to 1913, and the remaining six of its total of 36 between 1922 and 1939 before its destruction. Peals have been few at St. Paul's Cathedral, as most people know. Only 16 have been rung in the 75 years concerned—seven from 1881 to 1909, seven from 1918 to 1938, and two in 1948 and 1953. Even this beats the last of the 12-bell towers—St. Bride's, Fleet Street, where the bells had been silent for nearly 40 years when it was blitzed. The 13 peals there came between 1882 and 1903.

Although seven 10-bell towers have already been mentioned, there are still nine more in the county, for Middlesex has more of these towers than any other county. Six of the nine have not had peals rung on them for many years. St. Barnabas', Pimlico, holds the record—the last of its six peals was rung in 1902, while Hampstead isn't much better, for all its 20 peals came from 1882 to 1905. Chelsea has a 30 years' silence. Thirty-two of the 37 peals were rung before 1914 and there were five in 1920 to 1922. St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, has the most peals of the nine, but has not been heard for more than 20 years. Forty-eight of the 57 peals are pre-1914, and there were nine after the war up to 1933. Kensington, St. Mary Abbot's, has 35 peals—26 from 1882 to 1914, and nine from 1922 to 1937.

The Imperial Institute, Kensington, has fewest peals of all—four. Three were rung soon after the bells were installed between 1902 and 1904

and the only other one was rung in 1924. Of the three rings which have been heard since 1945, Hillingdon has the most—38. These are spread evenly over the years—17 from 1892 to 1916, 14 from 1918 to 1934, and seven from 1949 to 1955. Poplar has 34, mostly before 1914 (24), but there have been three from 1946 to 1951. The final 10 is now at All Hallows', Twickenham. These bells have had an interesting history for they have been moved twice. Seventy-five years ago they were at the Church of St. Dionis, Fenchurch Street (no peals in the period there), then they were moved to All Hallows', Lombard Street, where four peals were rung in 1897 (two), 1928 and 1930. Since being placed at Twickenham, five years ago, four more peals have been rung.

LONG SILENCES

The most prominent 8-bell towers have already been mentioned. St. Stephen's, Westminster, has the most peals of the remaining towers, but is not heard of much these days. Eighty-four of its 89 peals were rung from 1881 to 1905. There were none between the wars but two since. Christ Church, Poplar, has 77—half came from 1907 to 1914, and 26 from 1919 to 1925, but there was a 20-year silence then until 16 peals were rung from 1945 to 1949 (none since). Fifty-three of Tottenham's 69 were rung before 1906 and the tower has only been heard occasionally since, but there have been three since the war. Several towers have long silences. St. Botolph's, Aldgate, and St. Dunstan's-in-the-West have not been heard at all in the period, although there were early peals at both. St. Lawrence Jewry's only peal was in 1887, and a similar lone peal at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico, was in 1902. Shadwell had 31 from 1892 to 1900 and none since. Paddington's three were in 1903, 1905 and 1913. The peal at Harrow last year was the first since 1899. Others have silences of more than 25 years.

As for 6-bell towers, there are not a large number of them, and 6-bell ringing has never been very popular in the county. Cranford has the most—30, and all since the last war. Stanwell has 22, all but the first since the war, and including peals in record numbers of Doubles methods recently. Stoke Newington's only peal was in 1891. South Mymms has not been heard this century either. No peals have been recorded at West Drayton; Hayes; St. Andrew's Undershaft; St. Catherine's Cree; St. Luke's, Nutford Place; and St. Vedast's, Foster Lane (now destroyed). Two of the three 5-bell towers in the county have had a single peal—St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, in 1923, and Shepperton in 1947. The remaining one is at Bethnal Green (St. Thomas'), which still has to be conquered.

Peal totals include all published to April 8th, 1955.

ACCIDENT INSURANCE FOR BELLRINGERS

Many teams of bellringers are insured under the special policies issued by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Office, Ltd., 11, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.2. Particulars will be supplied on application. Those with old policies are recommended to consider increasing the scale of benefits provided.

The Ecclesiastical Insurance Office, Ltd., was founded in 1887 to conserve for the Church of England profits arising from Church Insurances. The Office undertakes all kinds of parochial insurance. 6187

DEDICATION

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

The bells of Handsworth Parish Church, Birmingham, were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Birmingham on April 2nd following their recasting by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

After the service an excellent touch of 408 Stedman Triples was rung by the following members of St. Martin's Guild:—Alderman Paddon Smith 1, Henry H. Fearn 2, Albert Walker (conductor) 3, George E. Fearn 4, Edgar C. Shepherd 5, John Pinfold 6, Frank E. Haynes 7, Ralph G. Edwards 8.

It is interesting to note that Alderman Paddon Smith rang the bell upon which he rang his first peal, at the age of 15. Three of the bells were each given by ex-Lord Mayors of Birmingham.

A commemoration plaque in wrought bronze reads:—

'In thanksgiving to Almighty God for the wise and inspiring ministry of James Henry Linton, Bishop, Ordained Priest in 1904. Consecrated Bishop 1919. Bishop in Persia 1919-1935. Assistant Bishop of Birmingham 1937-1954. Rector of Handsworth 1935-1954.

'The eight bells in this tower were recast and rehung in a new frame by the gift of the parishioners and friends of this church and were dedicated by Leonard, Lord Bishop of Birmingham, 2nd April, 1955.

'K. B. Wood, Rector's Warden. D. G. Vaughton, People's Warden.'

THE INSCRIPTIONS

The recast bells bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this treble bell was recast by means of a gift from Alderman A. Paddon Smith, J.P., Lord Mayor of Birmingham 1950-51. In loving memory of his wife, Nancy Earland.'

Second.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this bell was recast by means of a gift from Councillor William Semple and Mrs. Amy C. Semple. In memory of their son, Sgt. William J. R. Semple, R.A.F., 1924-1945, who did not return.'

Third.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this bell was recast by means of a gift from Horace H. Lowe, Esq., and Mrs. Ada E. Lowe. In memory of their son, Donald Roderic, R.N., age 21, lost at sea 9th August, 1942.'

Fourth.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this bell was recast on behalf of the Bells Restoration Committee in appreciation of the generous support given to their appeal by the parishioners and friends of this church. George Griffith, Leon Hudson, Harry Mason, Dorothy Thomas, Harold Thompson, Ian Thompson, Albert Tims, Denis Vaughton, Kenneth Wood, Wardens. 1955.'

Fifth.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this bell was recast through the generosity of Councillor F. T. D. Hall and Mrs. Irene Hall, J.P. In memory of their respective fathers.'

Sixth.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this bell was recast by means of a gift from Alderman G. H. W. Griffith, J.P., Lord Mayor of Birmingham 1953-54. In loving memory of his wife, Gladys Winifred, Lady Mayoress of Birmingham, who died 31st January, 1954.'

Seventh.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this bell was recast through the generosity of Alderman Percy W. Cox, J.P. In loving memory of his parents, Harry Cox and Fanny Elizabeth Cox.'

Tenor.—'In thankfulness to Almighty God this tenor bell was recast by means of a gift from Sir Ernest R. Canning, D.L., J.P., Lord Mayor of Birmingham, 1937-38. In memory of his mother.'

ESSEX ASSOCIATION

Visit to North Ockendon After 27 Years

On Saturday, April 2nd, the South Western District held a quarterly meeting at St. Mary Magdalene's, North Ockendon, for the first time since 1928. About 40 ringers were present, and for many this was their first pull on this rather tricky, anti-clockwise six.

After service, conducted by the new Rector (the Rev. Mr. Hall), the company adjourned for tea followed by a business meeting in the School Room. Mr. Heazell, Master of the Essex Association, and Mrs. Heazell and 'Rook' were welcome visitors. Silent tribute was paid to the memory of Mr. H. H. Warne, a non-ringing member from Dagenham, and Mr. Scase, senior, ringing member from Loughton.

After the election of six new ringing members, the meeting went on to discuss the possible revision of the boundaries of the South-Western District, which many agreed was of an unwieldy size. Mr. Wilmington drew attention to the fact that the date of the May meeting at Chigwell was now May 14th and not May 7th, as printed on the 'fixture' cards, and appealed for all present to make an effort to get to Chigwell, as a meeting had not been held there for many years.

Mr. Heazell called attention to the special ringing in connection with the Cathedral Festival at Chelmsford. This is taking place from June 4th to 11th, and the tower will be open for ringing from 6.15 p.m. until 7.15 p.m. on every night during that week except Tuesday and Thursday. On Tuesday there is a peal attempt scheduled, and good wishes for success were extended to the band, as peals at Chelmsford Cathedral (especially Maximus) are something of a rarity.

The Master also reminded the meeting of a ringing week-end to be held at Clarence House, Thaxted (under the auspices of the Essex Education Committee) on June 10th-12th. The first venture of this kind, last year, had been well attended and proved very popular, and Mr. Heazell asked for early bookings as the capacity of Clarence House was limited.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rector and organist, and also to Mrs. Woodgate and her helpers for an enjoyable tea. Ringing was continued until eight o'clock, and ranged from London Surprise to rounds and call changes. J. E. M. H.

THE LADIES' GUILD

Midland District

Despite the downpour of rain and the floods, a successful meeting of the Midland District was held at Burton-on-Trent on March 26th, when ringing on the ten bells of St. Paul's was enjoyed during the afternoon and evening.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar, who said that as it was Passiontide, he would not speak about bells but that he would speak on the Passion of our Lord, taking as his text, 'Behold the Man.' The service concluded with the hymn, 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross.'

An excellent tea was served to approximately 35 ringers and friends by the local ladies. The vice-president, Miss Thompson, expressed thanks to all concerned, especially to Mr. B. G. Key, for making the local arrangements.

At the business meeting four new members were elected. The vice-president asked the secretary to write to Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Smith, now living in the Norwich area, sending the members' best wishes and congratulations to them on the birth of their son, Stephen Thomas.

It is hoped to hold the next meeting jointly with the West Midland District at Tamworth on June 4th.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD

A quarterly meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Aston Parish Church on March 26th. The Master (Mr. Albert Walker) referred to the passing of William J. Meers, of Erdington Parish Church, and the members stood in silence in respect to his memory.

The following were made full ringing members:—Miss Shirley B. Jones, Mr. Terry Hayward and Mr. Richard Cann, all of Solihull. The tower elections of the following life members were duly ratified:—Mr. David A. Carpenter, of Coventry, Miss Gwen I. Rusby, of Grimsby, and Mr. Howard Scott, of Doncaster.

Notice of motion having been given at the previous meeting of a proposed redrafting of the rules, Mr. Edgar C. Shepherd formally proposed that the new rules be adopted. After discussion it was decided by a majority that any alteration of the rules should be made at the annual meeting, and the matter was therefore postponed until January.

For the place of the next meeting it was unanimously decided to accept an invitation kindly extended by the Tanworth-in-Arden ringers to visit their village on July 2nd.

The chairman referred to the very fine oil painting of the late Joshua Short which has been presented to the Guild by Mr. Butcher, of Bromsgrove, who is a great-great-grandson of Joshua Short. Joshua Short was an Aston ringer who helped to make ringing history by taking part in several long lengths on Aston bells, and it is very appropriate that his portrait hangs side by side with that of Henry Johnson in Ashton Parish Church belfry.

Mr. Walker informed the meeting that the £100,000 appeal for the restoration of St. Martin's Church was within £500 of its completion. When this object is achieved the members will have the use of the new flat sixth bell, which will be found very useful for the Tuesday practices.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

The Bedford District met at the Abbey Church of SS. Mary and Helena, Elstow, on April 2nd. Ringing before tea was mainly for beginners, who received plenty of help and advice, and many achieved great things. The proceedings before tea were rounded off with an excellent course of Woodbine. Tea, served by the local band, was taken in the Church Hall.

At the business meeting the Vicar (the Rev. Mr. Hartley) was elected an honorary member, with Mr. L. A. Clare, of Pavenham, as a performing member. The usual round of thanks for the bells and tea, etc., were voiced by Mr. J. B. Long.

After tea many members had the interesting and unique experience of ringing the historic fifth bell—the same one that John Bunyan rang before his conversion. It has not been recast. Ringing was of a good quality, including touches of Cambridge and London.

One touch of Cambridge was dogged by two ropes breaking successively! The bells were well lowered in Queens—for a change—at 8.30.

ALDRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

(Tipler's D 56-1)

58, 16, 56, 36, 14, 1458, 16, 7

Rung at Birmingham Cathedral, March 23rd, 1955.

UMBERSLADE SURPRISE MAJOR

(Tipler's B 27-3)

38, 16, 56, 16, 14, 38, 16, 1

Rung at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, March 28th, 1955.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S RULES

Dear Sir,—On behalf of Mr. C. K. Lewis and myself, may I thank Mr. Alan Pink for his kind remarks about our efforts. (He may have noticed the slight error of identity in his letter.)

The decision to which he refers was incorporated in the Council's Rules when these were revised in 1950, and now forms part of Rule 3 (i), which reads as follows:—

'Any Society, Association or Guild of Church Bell Ringers . . . numbering not fewer than seventy-five members, shall upon application and subject to election by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting be affiliated to the Council and shall subscribe to an undertaking loyally to abide by the Rules and Decisions of the Council.'

The original resolution was passed in 1930, and asked affiliated Societies to incorporate in their rules:—

'That this Society be affiliated to the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, and loyally abide by the Rules and Decisions thereof.'

We could, perhaps, have republished the Rules in our review, but they will of course be included in the Handbook, and they may be found in 'The Ringing World' of June 9th, 1950.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT,
Hon. Secretary,
Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

HOLT'S ORIGINAL

Dear Sir,—It is terrible to note that very few ringers call this peal at present. Are budding conductors unable to memorise it or is it because there are other simple peals of Grandsire Triples?

I remember, 60 years ago, the funny remarks being made of Taylor's Bob and 'Swindle' peal. Holt's Original was the first peal I called at St. Margaret's, Barking, on February 5th, 1898, with Faulkner, Ferris, etc. I have rung it 26 times on tower bells and five on handbells, conducting 23 and one 'silent' at St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, on June 4th, 1898.—Yours truly,

G. E. SYMONDS.

Ipswich.

MANUAL

Dear Sir,—The need is urgent and the best ideas should be published in 'The Ringing World' as they are received. The Manual would obviously take some time to produce.

Musical appreciation classes are common to-day, and very successful. I would suggest that our first and most important chapter should be on the musical appreciation of church bells. Give details of how to listen, what to listen for, and what to look for in selecting touches or new methods to ring. Try to shift the emphasis from intricate methods and endurance tests on to producing good, well-struck music. Continually refer to this chapter throughout the book, linking it with every aspect of ringing.

Classes for instructors would be very helpful and welcome.—Yours, etc.,

E. FOSBERRY.

Horsham.

Dear Sir,—Authoritative advice and instruction in printed form is a much-needed want. A standard text book of this description would make for uniformity throughout the ringing world. Many would-be ringers who are now lost would stay the course with more comprehensive instruction. We are all in favour and await the Manual with impatience.

J. S.

St. Mary Cray.

MR. BLAGROVE ANSWERS CRITICS

Dear Sir,—Regarding Mr. Martin's letter, I did not say that double changes in Major are bad. I said 'IF double changes . . .'. I do not agree that they are bad in Triples or Major. To ban a thing because it is unnecessary is just silly. Four-blow singles in Grandsire, four-blow bobs in Kent, non-c.p.s. Treble Bob and many other things are unnecessary, but perhaps he would also ban these. I challenge his remark, 'We tolerate Cambridge.' One person condemns Cambridge in his book on Surprise. So what? Cambridge Major is a method enjoyed by learner and expert alike.

With reference to M. R. P., Plain Bob on odd numbers is a most excellent method for teaching beginners, far better than Grandsire or Stedman, and if a method is useful for teaching beginners, then that is a necessary and sufficient reason for retaining it. Grandsire Triples is not the extension of Plain Bob Minor, Plain Bob Triples and Grandsire Triples are both extensions, but whereas Plain Bob Triples leads on to Plain Bob Major, Grandsire Triples leads on to a triple-hunt Major method, Grandsire Major (No. 2 version), which is, incidentally, regular.

He also says that you stagnate if you don't progress. Perhaps he could tell us how those who have rung 105 Minor methods can progress (in the field of Minor)? As Mr. H. Chant has so excellently pointed out, the only way in which they can progress is to release the Plain Bob lead-end rule. It is not illogical to say that if Plain Bob is the foundation of all our methods, we should keep its lead heads. You might just as well say 'Plain Bob is a plain method with only right places, therefore we will only ring plain methods with right places.'

As Mr. Bond says, the whole thing is a matter of principle. Whereas the Central Council will accept a rough peal rung at a secular tower than for no other purpose than to enable someone to ring more than 40 peals in a year, it would reject a peal of Plain Bob Triples rung by a Sunday service band to the glory of God and to commemorate, say, the Coronation of H.M. the Queen. Have we got a Central Council of Church Bell Ringers or a Central Council for the Amassment of Peals.

Finally, with regard to Mr. Frith connecting the banning of Doubles variations with the silencing of cats, I must point out that the best-loved cats are those of uncertain parentage.—Yours sincerely,

F. T. BLAGROVE.

Sanwell, near Staines.

A MERCHANT NAVY RINGER GETS PRACTICE AT CAPE TOWN

Dear Sir,—My occupation in the Merchant Navy brings me to Cape Town, South Africa, regularly every two months. My ringing activities are somewhat limited owing to the profession, but due to the kindness and hospitality of the band at St. Mary's, Woodstock, I am able to take part in the ringing on their practice evening whilst the ship is in port.

My thanks go especially to Mr. Woods, the captain, also to Mr. A. V. Sheppard, who always ensures that I enjoy the greatest of pleasure and amusement during my stay in Cape Town.

I feel sure that any wandering Merchant Navy ringer will receive a great welcome by the band and be assured of some very happy ringing on a good ring of eight. Any such person should apply to Mr. A. V. Sheppard, Box 1703, Cape Town, South Africa.—Yours sincerely,

A. L. SPENCER.

Southampton.

OUR 'RINGING WORLD'

Dear Sir,—F. S.'s defence of a sixpenny 'Ringing World' is impressive were it a true picture. I have taken the 'Bell News' and later 'The Ringing World' without a break since 1907. I could hazard a guess that there is today a hard core of similar old subscribers without whom 'Our Paper' would have long ago been insolvent. Few if any of these older men partake of the increased wealth of the country enumerated by 'F. S.' although they are compelled to subscribe heavily to the well-being of their younger brethren.

My income to-day is but two-thirds of my 1937 retiring salary and as that two-thirds has since depreciated in value by 13s. 4d. in the £1, each £1 is now only worth 4s. 5½d. The price of three cigarettes is the outworn theme of parsons and politicians when cadging or cajoling, but when £1 will only buy 4s. 5½d. worth of cigarettes one has to look carefully at each three cigarettes before giving them away! Besides one cannot eat cigarettes, neither will they keep out the rain and snow. (I am not pleading poverty, merely trying to create a true perspective.)

In my experience the not so young are the ones most regular and punctual for service ringing! They, not peal ringers, are the backbone of the Exercise. They do not ring many peals—often because the cost of travel is for them prohibitive. A sixpenny 'Ringing World' is to them a real sacrifice. To me, and no doubt to many similar, 'Our Paper' is not really worth 6d, although we continue to take it simply as a link with old friends. Our names seldom now appear in print; we are largely forgotten or have been thrown overboard; youth, even Christian youth, is so intolerant.

In this issue, April 1st, 291 names appear, occupying three and a half pages, as having rung peals. At 3d. each name, a voluntary contribution would produce £3 12s. 9d.. The total received this week is 8s. 6d. A further 315 names appear as having rung quarter peals, occupying one page. At 3d. each, this would produce £3 18s. 9d. The total received is £2 9s.

It is quite obvious that our most prolific peal ringers for whom 'Our Paper' caters first and foremost and who are largely the younger folk who benefit most from the wealth of the country and can afford it, do not contribute their fair share. It is to them 'F. S.' should direct the moral, 'Pay for your sport—or pleasure, or leave it alone.' Can they not be made to pay?

W. BOTTRILL.

P.S.—Why hide behind initials —W. B.

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON

Dear Sir,—Glancing through my old records for a friend, I found that the late Rev. F. E. Robinson rang his peal at Cranleigh on January 8th, 1910, just one week previous to his last at Hillingdon on the 15th. It brought back to memory our great surprise at his sudden death, as it was said at Cranleigh that the reverend gentleman looked good for years. He was buried on February 19th, 1910, not 1911 as stated in your April 1st issue.—Yours, etc.,

A. H. PULLING.

Guildford.

SEEN BEFORE

Dear Sir,—The 1,280 of Plain Bob Major under the name of Raymond Overy (page 224) is one that was composed many years ago. I do not know when it was first rung but I called it during the year 1909.—Yours sincerely,

W. SHEPHERD.

Addlestone.

THE AMBLING RINGER

Ye Attleborough ringers, come listen to me,
Hear what I say now and I think you will agree
About your new tenor I don't say a word,
But to make them complete you must have a
new third.

For she is short-winded, which is oft-times the
case;

I think a new one would be best in her place;
She is near the half-tone, and tell the right tale,
But she always will be a disgrace to your peal.

Then I went to Harling, where the bells hang
across,
They said, 'Sir, you are a stranger, so mind
you're not lost.'
But I, on the second, thought there was no
need
When they called for Plain Bob, I knew I must
lead.

Then I went to Northwold, when the tenor
was 'G';
They all took their place and left her to me;
She weighed thirteen hundred by what I could
feel,
And two or three times the rope missed the
wheel.

Then I went to Methwold on the very same
day,
The rain fast descending all the whole way;
When I got there I was wet to my skin,
And who should I meet with but great Harry
King.

Then I went to Garboldisham—the weather
being hot
Not a company of ringers was there to be got;
They were all very busy being Saturday Eve—
All cobblers and tailors I firmly believe.

Then I went to Hopton—I will tell you no lies—
And there rang the treble to 'Cambridge Sur-
prise.'
There was Joe Booty as plain as could be,
Besides other ringers that I never did see.

Then I went to Blo' Norton, and there rang
on five
With some as good old ringers as any alive;
They were lovers of ringing as well as strong
beer,
And to practise their science they went far and
near.

Then I went to Lopham and happened of Tom
In a cobbler's shop, close by his own home;
His eyes were covered all with his long hair,
And his beard on his face made him look like
a bear.

Then I went to Burgate and happened of Bean—
All he knew about ringing he soon did explain;
I ask'd him one question—his mouth for to
stop;
How the eight bells should lay when the tittums
come up?

Then I went to Tibenham, all on the road
straight;
There's a grand peal of six, which ought to be
eight;
And what an addition these two bells would be,
For according to my car, the tenor is 'E.'

Then I went to Diss in the morning betimes,
Saluted I was with the beautiful chimes;
At the sign of the Cherry Tree, there I did
stop,
And I sent for Old Harry to his blacksmith's
shop.

Then I set off again that very same day.
Round by Brome Swan and so down to Eye;
There's a grand peal of eight as I understand,
But not ringers enow* to lend me a hand.

Then I went to Redenhall, they were all
strangers to me,
But some very good ringers I judged them to be;
There's a length of eight thousand nailed up on
a board
Of that intricate peal, called 'Oxford Treble
Bob.'

Then I went to Bungay to hear the new peal,
I always will say they do not tell the right tale,
For when I heard them I said very soon,
There is a deficiency in the half-tone.

Then I went to Norwich where the dons do
dwell,
Some of the ringers I knew very well;
There was Harry, he railed against Thurston
and Payne,
And swore he never would ring with them again.

Then I went to Fornett, being late in the night,
When I got there, I found all was not right;
There's a good peal of five as I have heard tell,
They were made into six by an old stolen bell.

Then I went to Buckenham, where they were
all know,
So that I was not able to put in a blow;
There was young crafty Aldis, he was full of
his lies,
For he talked of ringing 'London Surprise.'

Then I went to Harwich, one fine summer's day,
Went ringing of handbells all the whole way;
I never did meet with my master before,
Till I met with John Ringer on the sea shore.

Now to conclude and finish my song,
I have rambled about till it's time to go home;
I never went to Gislegham, where I ought to
have gone,
To see the grand company fed with a tea-spoon.
* Enough.

A copy of a printed pamphlet in the posses-
sion of W. E. 'Rowley' Musk, an old Norfolk
ringer now living in Eye, Suffolk.

ICKNIELD SURPRISE MAJOR

12345678	38724615
21436587	83726451
12435678	38724615
21346587	38724165
23164578	38271456
32615487	32874165
32165847	23781456
23618574	32718465
32681547	23174856
23865174	23714586
28361547	32175468
82635174	31257486
28365714	13524768
82637541	31527486
28635714	13254768
82367541	13527486
83276451	

Rung at Birmingham Cathedral, Jan. 20th, 1955.

YARDLEY SURPRISE MAJOR

12345678	64738215
21436587	46783251
12463857	64872315
21648375	46782135
26143857	64871253
62418375	64782135
26148357	46871253
62413875	48617235
64231857	84162753
46328175	48612735
46231857	84167253
64328175	81462735
46238715	18647253
64327851	81674523
46372815	18765432
64738251	18674523
46372851	

Rung at Yardley, Birmingham, Jan. 15th, 1955.

OUTINGS

ST. MARY'S, TWYFORD, BERKS

Twyford ringers, together with friends from several adjacent towers held their first annual outing on Easter Monday visiting Central and West Wilts.

After a delightful ride through West Berkshire, Pewsey was reached ahead of schedule. The church was beautifully decorated and the Easter Garden was especially admired. The six bells were soon set going to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor and rounds.

Devizes was the next objective. Unfortunately ringing at St. John's was interrupted for 20 minutes by a baptism, but this time was used to ring handbells on the flat roof of the Lady Chapel. St. James', Southbroom, bells were sampled before leaving Devizes.

The Vicar of Rowde, who is a ringer, welcomed the company to his tower. A pleasant half-hour was spent here, and then on to Seend, where the delightful situation of the church and the wonderful Easter decorations were admired by all. The ropes were in poor condition but the 'go' was quite good.

The party arrived at Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon, at the appointed hour, but one or two difficulties, mainly a loose clock hammer and a very 'temporary' stay delayed proceedings slightly. Tea was served in Holy Trinity Church House and was much appreciated.

The last tower of the day was Melksham, where, in spite of the long draught, some reasonably good ringing was enjoyed. Methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major.

EASTER MONDAY IN SOUTH DEVON

A number of Devon Guild ringers, mainly drawn from Teignmouth, spent a very enjoyable day in the South Hams area on Easter Monday in perfect weather conditions.

The good-going six at East Allington was first visited, followed by a pleasant hour at Dodbrook. A picnic lunch followed, a spot by the roadside on a hill being chosen for this, where the party were able to get a good view of the scenery.

The six bells at South Pool were in good going order and the company marvelled at the very large number of primroses which had been gathered to decorate the church. From here the party moved on to East Portlemouth on one side of the Salcombe estuary, where the ringing was thoroughly enjoyed on what proved to be the best six for the day.

Tea, with real Devonshire cream, was served at a farmhouse at the charming village of East Prawle on the extreme south coast of Devon. From here a move was made for Chivellstone, another good six, this being the last tower for the day. All were new towers for most of the party, who expressed their thanks to the organiser for the excellent programme. Methods rung were Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob Doubles.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT

On Easter Monday, in beautiful spring weather, some 28 ringers and friends from Bozcat, Roade and St. Sepulchre's, Northampton, much enjoyed an outing organised by Mr. G. F. Roome.

Ringling during the day took place at Whilton (6), Daventry (8), Staverton (6), Southam (8), Bishop's Itchington (5), Dunchurch (6), Rugby (5), Willoughby (6) and Braunston (6).

Methods rung included Plain Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Cambridge, Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob Minor and a variety of Doubles methods.

Thanks are due to the incumbents for the use of their bells, and to tower captains and others who met the party.

RANDOM THOUGHTS ON BOB MAJOR

By H. CHANT

Finally, let us have a look at another 'wangle' that comes in useful sometimes.

Examine the following extension:—

23456	W	H
42356	—	—
54326	—	—
32546	—	—
43526	—	—
52436	—	—
45236	—	—
24536	—	—
53246	—	—
25346	—	—
34256	—	—
23456	—	—

Now the only course-end missing in order to have the 6th the extent in 6 is 35426.

If we examine the following touch of three courses we shall find that it contains this desirable course-end, and moreover, returns us into the plain course.

23456	W	B	M	H	W	M	H
52364	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—	65324	35426	35426
23456	—	—	—	—	23456	23456	23456

If we started our extension with this round block, falseness would occur as the Bob W brings us into the course 52436, which occurs as the 6th course of our original extension.

But we are undaunted. In the 3 course round block just given, the course 52436 is used from the W to the B positions, i.e., the 2nd, 3rd and 4th leads. There still remains the 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th leads.

Is it possible to utilise these in order to avoid falseness. Puzzle no longer, dear student, it is!

Here is a round block which, for want of a better term, I call the 'reciprocal' of the above, because it removes the falseness created by it.

23456	W	B	M	H
52364	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—

By inserting these into our original extension we get the following:—

23456	W	B	M	H	W	M	H
52364	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—	23564	23564	52364
42356	—	—	—	—	65324	35426	35426
54326	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—	35426	—	—
23564	—	—	—	—	52364	52364	35264
45236	—	—	—	—	35264	35264	23564
24536	—	—	—	—	62534	52436	—
33246	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

If the reader (I'm fed up, like you, with the word student), cares to write out the complete proof he will find it correct, but the professor and I can tell by comparing the written proofs above with each other and the course-ends of the extension.

By combining our 'reciprocals' and the insertion B, W and M and then further extending the 6th in 5th it is possible to get some interesting peals.

Here is one:—

23456	W	B	M	H
52364	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—	—
24365	—	—	—	—
34562	—	—	—	—
25463	—	—	—	—
42563	—	—	—	—
54263	—	—	—	—
32465	—	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—
23564	—	—	—	—
45236	—	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—
32456	—	—	—	S

Repeated.

6th extent right and always in 5-6. By adding 3 H at the 8th course we have the extent each way.

This peal, then, is built up from our previous touch. If the 3 bracketted extensions are removed it will be seen that the insertion is (as I have said) B, W and M with which we are already familiar. There appears to be little resemblance between this peal and our simple extension but scores of such peals may be built up in a similar manner.

Although I have given only one pair of 'reciprocals' there are others which the student may like to discover for himself.

As I finally 'wrap up' I am aware that these random thoughts of mine are full of shortcomings. Certain things could have been said better—other, perhaps, better left unsaid. I am cognisant that I have done those things that I ought not to have done and left undone those things that I ought to have done. (The latter always makes me feel more uneasy than the former.)

But perhaps someone, somewhere, has learnt a little knack or trick, or perhaps some trifle is slightly less obscure: meanwhile the professor has been kept amused.

I know but little, but that little I know is always at anyone's disposal—so don't be afraid to ask—my Bach is worse than my Beethoven.

(Concluded)

Calthorpe Surprise Major

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	8 4 7 2 5 6 1 3
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	8 7 4 5 2 6 3 1
1 2 3 4 6 8 5 7	7 8 5 4 6 2 1 3
2 1 4 3 8 6 7 5	8 7 4 5 6 1 2 3
2 4 1 3 6 8 5 7	7 8 5 4 1 6 3 2
4 2 3 1 8 6 7 5	7 8 4 5 6 1 2 3
4 2 1 3 6 8 5 7	8 7 5 4 1 6 3 2
2 4 3 1 8 6 7 5	7 8 5 1 4 6 2 3
4 2 3 8 1 6 5 7	8 7 1 5 6 4 3 2
2 4 8 3 6 1 7 5	8 7 5 1 4 6 2 3
2 4 3 8 1 6 5 7	7 8 1 5 6 4 3 2
2 4 8 3 6 1 7 5	7 1 8 5 4 6 2 3
2 4 3 8 6 7 1 5	1 7 5 8 6 4 3 2
4 2 8 3 7 6 5 1	7 1 8 5 6 3 4 2
4 8 2 7 3 6 1 5	1 7 5 8 3 6 2 4
8 4 7 2 6 3 5 1	1 7 8 5 6 3 4 2
4 8 2 7 6 5 3 1	

Rung at Birmingham Cathedral, January 27th, 1955.

IN SOUTH NORFOLK

That the best way to reach almost inaccessible towers is to travel by car was proved on April 2nd, when some young Norfolk ringers visited South Norfolk. We called first at Banham, a six-bell tower. The second is by New-
man, of Norwich, in 1741, and is inscribed:—

We trebles came by small consent,
Our birth I hope will give content;
Twins from old tenor, our lost old dad,
Some we make merry and some are sad.

Our duty was to make merry, for a wedding had been arranged at short notice; we were astonished when John Barnes said the bridegroom was his cousin! So much for the planned quiet ceremony.

Next to Garboldisham, where Mr. Garnham helped us make good use of the six. We were shown the crown of a bell in the porch, and a note described it as the only remaining piece of work of William Schep, who is believed to have been a 13th century founder. We called at Dickleburgh (5) before rushing to Attleborough to pick up the undertaker of the band, who had been delayed. Thus a planned quiet hour for lunch became 15 minutes of fish and chips.

Minor repairs to the slider of the second had to be carried out at Shelfanger (5), where the tenor was cast by Thomas Draper in 1582, and the remaining four by Pack and Chapman in 1772. We felt the music here would have pleased Arnold Schönberg. The six at Winfarthing were then rung, and we hope Mr. Walter Elsey will soon be well again.

At Tharston and Tasburgh (both five-bell towers) we were joined by Mr. Harry Duffield, of the well-known Norfolk ringing family, the Rector (of both parishes) and his dog, Bobby. Amusement was caused at Tasburgh, for when first the conductor called 'bob,' the dog bounded in. Bridget Mutimer's mother did very well to give a good tea to six hungry ringers, after which we called finally at Shotesham (5), where promising young members of the local band met us. The bells and the appearance of the ringing room leave nothing to be desired—a most encouraging end to the day.

Methods rung ranged from rounds on five to Spliced Little and Plain Bob Minor and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

Thanks are expressed to David Heighton for driving, Mrs. Mutimer for the wonderful tea, and John Barnes for making arrangements and John Barnes for arrangements. J. S. B.

5,056 Bristol Surprise Major

By ERNEST BENNETT

2 3 4 5 6	M	B	W	H
4 2 3 5 6	—	—	—	1
5 6 2 3 4	1	—	2	2
3 2 4 6 5	2	—	2	—
3 5 2 6 4	2	—	—	1
3 6 4 5 2	2	—	1	1
6 3 2 5 4	—	—	—	2
5 4 3 2 6	1	—	2	2
3 2 5 4 6	1	—	2	1

Repeated.

This composition contains:—

the 120 — 678's
the 24 — 6578's
the 24 — 6478's

and all the lead heads with the following bells behind in the positions stated thus:—

7 2 8 6	5 4 7 8
7 3 8 6	6 8 2 7
7 4 8 6	6 8 3 7
7 5 8 6	6 8 4 7
7 6 8 5	6 8 5 7
7 6 8 4	2 8 6 7
7 5 8 4	3 8 6 7
7 4 8 5	4 8 6 7
4 5 7 8	5 8 6 7

First rung at Brenchley, Kent, on August 16th, 1954, conducted by John Worth.

OBITUARY

MR. J. W. L. SLACK

We regret to record the death on March 6th, 1955, of Mr. John William Longdon Slack, a ringer at St. James', Sutton, in the Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild for 57 years. Mr. Slack was a founder member of this Branch to which Sunday by Sunday in his own church and quarter by quarter in the wider sphere he gave most faithful service.

In 1944 he became tower leader and worked with such diligence and skill that the bells were always fully manned throughout this most difficult period for the Exercise in general.

A competent ringer of many Plain and Treble Bob methods his peals ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Minor, and numbered 40. Those he taught to ring will, however, remember him better for his insistence upon good striking, punctuality and faithful service.

He was laid to rest in the Churchyard at St. James', Sutton, on March 12th in the presence of a very large number of representatives of the Chester Guild and other local bodies in the life of which Mr. Slack had taken such an active part. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells at the graveside by Mrs. C. W. Lawton, Messrs. J. Worth, C. W. Lawton and J. W. Whittaker.

There were wreaths from the Chester Diocesan Guild (Macclesfield Branch), the ringers of St. Peter's, Macclesfield, and from the ringers of St. James', Sutton, the last of which bore the following words:—

At rest you lie
Beneath the bells
You rang so long and true;
Your course is done,
Your bell is 'Home,'
And honour is your due.
The bells each week
As they ring out
Their message ever new,
Will also keep alive and warm
Our memories, Jack, of you.

After the funeral a peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung fully muffled.

MR. JAMES AMORY SMITH

With regret we record the death of Mr. J. A. Smith, known to a wide circle of ringers as 'Pop.' He was the popular captain of the Talgarth, Breconshire, ringers for many years and was also District Master of the Swansea and Brecon Guild.

Mr. Smith started his ringing at Congresbury, Somerset, at the time when the late Major J. H. Hesse was living at Wrington. His two hobbies were ringing and fishing. He was brought up opposite Congresbury Church, his father then being the village schoolmaster.

Mr. Smith only rang two peals, he was at home on the tenor and was always keen on good striking. He came to Talgarth from Aberdare some years before the war to follow his profession as a dentist.

At the funeral, which took place at Talgarth on April 1st, the following members of the local band acted as bearers: Messrs. W. Chick, D. Griffith, J. Parry, M. James, R. Rees, D. Bennett. One of Mr. Smith's sons is a member of the local band.

It was his wish that the ringers should act as bearers and should ring after the funeral.

D. H. B.

MR. FRANK WARRINGTON

It is reported with deep regret that the death of Mr. Frank Warrington took place at his home at St. Ives on Sunday, April 17th, after a long illness. A full report will appear next week.

MR. A. E. BAVERSTOCK

One of the oldest members of the Bath Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, Mr. A. E. Baverstock, passed away on March 15th in his 83rd year. He started to take an interest in ringing at the age of eleven years, and continued as an active ringer until twelve months ago, when failing health prevented him from further participation. In recent years, since the war, he arranged an annual outing, usually in September, outings which will long be remembered by those who took part.

The interment took place at Locksbrook Cemetery, Bath, on March 21st, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by W. J. Prescott (Bath Abbey), G. J. Hawkins (St. Michael with St. Paul's), R. O. Fry (St. Michael's, Twerton), W. Cope (St. Mary's, Bathwick). The Abbey bells were rung half-muffled in the evening of the funeral, and a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Michael's, Twerton.

MR. WILLIAM APPLEBY

Many ringers in the Oxford Guild, and ringing bands who visited Henley over many years, will be sorry to hear that Mr. William Appleby has passed over, aged 76. He had to give up ringing about six years ago owing to ill-health.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 3s. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s. 6d.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

COMING-OF-AGE GREETING

Ringers friends in Suffolk extend hearty congratulations and best wishes to Alan Fever, now serving in Germany, on his 21st birthday and hope to be ringing again with him soon.

6220

ENGAGEMENT

PEAKMAN—HEMMING. — The engagement is announced between Reginald Arthur only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Peakman, of 47, High Street, Kingswinford, and Patricia, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Hemming, 15, Hawbush Road, Brierley Hill.

6215

MARRIAGE

GAY—LUTON.—On April 12th, 1955, at the Church of St. Cadoc, Trevethin, Monmouthshire, David John, only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Gay, to Jean, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Luton, Kincora, Wainfelin Road, Pontypool. Future residence: Oaklands, Sticklepath, Barnstaple, Devon..

6210

MISCELLANEOUS

DALLINGTON, NORTHAMPTON.—After April 24th, 1955, and until further notice, ringing is suspended owing to work of restoration.—E. Nobles.

6196

Correspondence in respect of SS. Peter and Paul's, Harlington, bells should now be addressed to Mr. L. Grice, 15, Burnham Gardens, Harlington, Middlesex. Practice night, Friday, 8 p.m. Visitors welcome.

6185

GUILDFORD GUILD Library requires Vol. 1887, 1890 and 1891 of 'Bell News,' also 'Ringing World' 1914 to 1927. Bound volumes or loose copies would be acceptable. Some exchanges available. Please write: A. C. Hazelden, 109, Grange Road, Guildford.

6186

ST. MICHAEL'S, BRAY, BERKS. — The bells must remain silent. We need £2,000 to restore the tower. Please help us. Donations gratefully acknowledged.—The Vicarage, Bray, Berks. 6221

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Frome Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Leigh-on-Mendip, April 23rd. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Names for tea.—E. Chivers, Chilcompton. 6158

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Glaston Branch. — Meeting, West Pennard, Saturday, April 23rd. Usual arrangements. 6175

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Matlock (8), Saturday, April 23rd, 3 p.m. Own tea arrangements.—T. E. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 6162

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Meeting, Elm, Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Tea provided.—J. Fox, Dis. Sec. 6163

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual general meeting in Guildford, Saturday, April 23rd. Service at Cathedral Church 3.30. Tea and meeting in S. Nicolas' Hall 4.30. Cathedral and S. Nicolas' bells available from 2.30.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec. 6114

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD. —Meeting, Tunbridge Wells, Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea, by April 20th, to G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 6152

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Barley, April 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea 4.45. Special method, Rossendale Surprise.—E. Buck, Dis. Sec. 6154

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Deal, Saturday, April 23rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting to follow.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Sec. 6134

MARKSBURY, NEAR BATH.—The annual ringers' service will be held April 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea to W. A. Prescott, Tel. Timsbury 287. 6169

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Annual meeting, High Wycombe, April 23rd, 3.15 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. 6133

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Redhill, April 23rd. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, followed by business meeting and a talk 'How to learn methods.' 6120

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Basingstoke District. — Quarterly meeting at Rotherwick, April 23rd. Bells (6) 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to J. Chesterman, Leacroft, Sherborne St. John, Basingstoke. 6174

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD. — Annual general meeting. Wednesday, April 27th, 9.15 p.m. (following St. Andrew's practice) in the treasurer's rooms, Clare Old Court.—W. T. Cook, Hon. Sec. 6198

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Bridgewater Branch. — Quarterly meeting at Greinton, April 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names please. — R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 6193

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern District.—Meeting at Alderminster, Saturday, April 30th. Ringing 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—A. R. Barrett. 6178

DEVON GUILD—Mid-Devon Branch. — Townstal, Dartmouth, Saturday, April 30th. Usual arrangements.—A. L. Bennett, Cornerways, Buckfastleigh. 6206

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Thorne on April 30th at 2.30.—F. Jackson, Hon. Sec. 6183

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting, Saturday, April 30th, Wylam, St. Oswin's, 2.30 p.m. Names to Mr. F. M. Gordon, Ochil, Woodcroft Road, Wylam. 6190

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting at Gainford, April 30th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Names for tea (essential), by April 27th, please, to E. P. Rock, 64, Tollesby Road, Middlesbrough. 6217

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Meeting at Ickleton, Saturday, April 30th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service? Tea at 5 p.m.—H. L. Martin, Dis. Sec. 6195

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern Division.—Meeting at Rettendon (6), Saturday, April 30th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Numbers for tea, please, to A. H. Everett, Cornerway, Plantation Road, Boreham. 6189

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting at Winterbourne, Saturday, April 30th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m. Names for tea, by Tuesday, April 26th, to W. F. Scudamore, County Police Station, Winterbourne, near Bristol. 6201

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Quarterly meeting, Cudham, April 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Names for tea (2s.), not later than Tuesday, 26th, to A. Hill, 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere. 6156

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—Meeting, Stanford-le-Hope, on Saturday, April 30th. Bells 3 p.m., followed by service, tea and business. Please send names for tea to Miss C. Chinnery, Brick House, Malting Lane, Orsett, Grays. 6197

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Bolton, April 30th. Towers available: All Souls' (8) 11 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Deane (8) and The Saviour's (8) 1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.; St. George's (8) 2.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.; The Parish Church (8) 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.; and, after the meeting, Holy Trinity (8) and St. Bartholomew's (6). It would be desirable if local ringers could be in attendance to meet visitors. Service in Bolton Parish Church 4 p.m. Tea in Parish Church Schools 5 p.m. (3s. 6d. per head). Names, together with remittance, by April 20th, to Mr. V. Martin, 413, Crompton Way, Bolton. Tel. No. Eagley 1536. Tower secretaries are asked to make block orders for their towers. Meeting in Parish Church Schools at approximately 6 p.m. 6157

LEEDS AND DISTRICT.—Annual meeting, Leeds Parish Church, Saturday, April 30th. Bells available 2.30. Tea 4.15 (own arrangements). Business meeting in the tower 7 p.m. Bells available until 9 p.m.—I. Slack, Hon. Sec. 6190

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Enderby, April 30th. Bells (8) 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at the Nag's Head 5. Names, please, by Wednesday previous, to Mr. L. Rivers, 6, Stewart Avenue, Narborough, Leicester. 6212

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting, Lincoln, April 30th. Holy Communion 8 a.m., Ringers' Chapel. Evensong 4 p.m. Usual ringing arrangements. Tea 5 p.m., Eastgate Court Cafe, followed by business meeting in Chapter House. Names for tea, by Tuesday previous, to Mr. J. A. Freeman, 95, Sincil Bank, Lincoln.—J. Bray, Hon. Sec. 6159

LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Nash, Saturday, April 30th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Tea and meeting (Waterloo Hotel). Names for tea by 20th, please—J. S. Evans, 4, Hughes Crescent, Chepstow, Mon. 6150

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LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Practice meeting, Saturday, April 30th, St. Mary's, Leyton (8), St. Mary-atte-Bowe, Stratford, E. (8). Times will appear next week.—L. W. Bullock, District Secretary.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—N. and E. District.—Meeting at Kingbury (Blackbird Cross—buses 52 and 83 pass church) on Saturday, April 30th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business to follow. Ringing also at Hendon (Church Road and near bus garage) 6.30 to 8.30 p.m.—T. J. Lock. 6200

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Mulbarton, April 30th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15, conducted by Canon H. Llewellyn. Tea in Parish Hall 5 p.m. followed by meeting. Names for tea, by Wednesday, April 27th, to H. Tooke, 11, Long Road, The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk. 6191

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting Ambrosden, Saturday, April 30th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Names for tea, by April 25th, please, to C. Kinch, Causcway, Bicester. 6199

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oundle Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Warming-ton (6), April 30th. Names for tea, not later than Tuesday previous, to Mrs. P. E. Clarke, 7, Bassett Place, Oundle. 6182

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Practice meeting, Felpham (6), April 30th. Names for tea, please, by previous Tuesday, to W. L. Weller, Sunnyside, Itchingfield, Horsham. 6202

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bristol on Saturday, May 7th. St. Stephen's 11.50; St. Mary Redcliffe 2.40; St. Thomas' 4. Tea, at the Grosvenor Hotel, 5. Names for tea to Mr. A. M. Tyler, 32, Hengrove Road, Knowle, Bristol 4.—A. B. Peck. 6146

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Stoke-under-Ham (6), Saturday, May 7th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify for tea T. J. Setter, 52, Middle Street, Yeovil. 6222

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Cary Branch.—Meeting at West Lydford, May 7th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Names for tea, please, to H. C. Lintern, Ditcheat. 6209

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—First meeting ever. Haynes (5), May 7th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Will car owners help with transport to tea (two miles away) at 5.15. A really good meeting, please. Everyone welcome.—Peter Shipton. 6188

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Witham (8), Saturday, May 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Mr. E. Bright, 42, Cressing Road, Witham. 6213

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Meeting at Ewell, May 7th. Bells from 3. Service 4.30. Numbers for tea, by May 4th, to John Beams, 4, Cottage Road, W. Ewell.—A. H. Smith. 6216

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at Ruckinge (5) May 7th. Bells 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Those requiring tea must inform Mrs. Blackburn, Bluc Anchor Inn, Ruckinge, by May 3rd, specifying this meeting.—W. P. G. 6203

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The meeting arranged at Westhoughton for May 7th is cancelled.—J. Thornley, Sec. 6204

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL'S SOCIETY.—Meeting at Harrietsham (8) on Saturday, May 7th. Bells 3. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Non-members cordially invited. Names, by Friday, April 29th, please, to Pamela Butcher, Herne Pound, Butcher's Lane, Mere-worth. 6160

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Norwich, Saturday, May 7th. Service at St. Andrew's 4; preacher the Rev. Gilbert Thurlow. Tea St. Andrew's Parish Hall, Queen Street, 4.45. Business meeting 5.30, St. Andrew's Parish Hall. Vital agenda, election of new president and new general secretary. Names for tea, before April 29th, to the Rev. Gilbert Thurlow, 17, The Close, Norwich (tea 2s. 6d.; 1s. 6d. to those at school). Bells: Mancroft (13) 3.15-3.45 and 7-9; St. Giles' (8). St. Miles' (8). St. John de Sepulchre (8). St. George Colegate (6), 1.30-3.45 and 7-9.—Gilbert Thurlow, Gen. Sec. 6148

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch to be held at Benson has been postponed until Saturday, May 7th. 6216

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—Meeting at Castor, May 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 Names for tea by May 3rd, please.—G. Bush, 18, Princes Street, Peterborough. 6194

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting, May 7th, at Langar (5), 2.30 to 4.30, and Granby (5) 6 to 8 p.m. Bus to Langar from Nottingham (Broad Marsh) 2.18 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at Boot and Shoe, Granby. Names by previous Tuesday to me.—C. W. Towers, Thrumpton, Nottingham. 6218

SURREY ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and **KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (Tonbridge District).—Joint meeting at Godstone, May 7th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea, by May 4th, to A. K. Wood, 18, White Cots, Holland, Oxted.—C. Champion, Miss D. Colgate, Hon. Dis. Secs. 6211

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting on Saturday, May 7th, at The Good Shepherd, Brighton. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 in Church Hall, followed by meeting. Ringing: The Good Shepherd 3-4.30; St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' 2.30-3.45 and 7.30-8.30. Tea 3s. per head to those who forward individual names to me not later than Wednesday, May 4th.—R. W. R. Percy, Esperance, Oldfield Road, Willingham, Eastbourne. 6192

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Selby Abbey on Saturday, May 7th. Bells (10) available 2-4.30 p.m. and after meeting until 9 p.m. Audit in Hawdon Institute 11 a.m. Service in Chancel 4.30 p.m. Tea (2s. 6d. per head) 5 p.m. in Hawdon Institute, followed by general meeting. Names, by May 5th, to Mr. T. H. Foster, 15, Port-holme Drive, Selby. Subscriptions now due, and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Bradford 9. 6205

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western.—Meeting at Chigwell will be held on May 14th, and joint meeting with Middlesex Association on August 13th, not as previously arranged.—C. Willmington, Hon. Dis. Sec. 6214

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